

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 SPC-03

STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 AGR-20

PM-07 L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07

DODE-00 DRC-01 /185 W

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R 061645Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2669

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 1372

EO 11652: GDS

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TAGS: NATO

SUBJECT: US-EC RELATIONS WITHIN THE ALLIANCE: A NON-EC
NINE

REF: USNATO 911

1. SUMMARY. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT COMMENTS AND ANALYSIS IN AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD'S RECENT MESSAGE ON NEED FOR US TO TAKE NON-EC EUROPE INTO FULL ACCOUNT IN DEVELOPING ITS OWN POLICY AND STRATEGY FOR DEALING WITH EUROPE IN BROADEST SENSE. GREECE (LIKE TURKEY) IS SOMEWHAT OF "SPECIAL CASE" IN THAT WHILE CURRENTLY OUTSIDE EC, IT CONTINUES TO ANTICIPATE EVENTUAL ASSOCIATION WITH EC AS ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN ITS OWN EXTERNAL ECONOMIC TIES. AT SAME TIME GREECE WANTS ITS CRUCIAL SECURITY INTERESTS TO BE APPROACHED IN EUROPEAN-WIDE CONTEXT, ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL MERITS, AND NOT SUBORDINATED TO THOSE OF ANY OF ITS EUROPEAN ALLIES. END SUMMARY.

2. GREECE RECOGNIZES THAT IF ITS LONG RUN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS TO PROCEED IN SOUNDEST AND MOST PROFITABLE WAY EVENTUAL MEMBERSHIP IN EC IS NECESSARY. ACCORDINGLY, IT SCRUPULOUSLY ADHERES TO ITS ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT PROVIDING FOR REDUCTION AND EVENTUAL ELIMINATION OF ITS IMPORT DUTIES AGAINST EC COUNTRIES BY 1984. ALTHOUGH ITS SIGHTS THUS REMAIN SET ON EC MEMBERSHIP GOAL, THE EXISTING CRITICAL AND OFTEN HOSTILE ATTITUDE OF SOME EEC COUNTRIES AGAINST POST-1967 GREEK REGIMES HAS CAUSED SOME OF CURRENT GREEK LEADERS TO ASSUME INDIFFERENT OR AT TIMES NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD EEC. GREEK ATTITUDE TOWARD EEC HARDENED WHEN COMMISSION TOOK POSITION THAT UNTIL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS REESTABLISHED IN GREECE, EC RELATIONS WITH GREECE WOULD REMAIN FROZEN.

3. REGARDLESS OF WHETHER GREECE REMAINS IN "SUSPENDED STATE" RE ASSOCIATION WITH EC--OR WHETHER POLITICAL SITUATION EVOLVES SO THAT GREECE CAN AGAIN MOVE TOWARD EC ASSOCIATION--WE BELIEVE GREECE WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK PRIMARILY TO US FOR ITS DEFENSE AND SECURITY REQUIREMENTS. WHILE NATO ALLIANCE REMAINS FOCUS OF DEFENSE PARTNERSHIP, GREECE LOOKS TO MAINTENANCE OF A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH US
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BECAUSE IT IS CONVINCED THAT US IS ONLY RELIABLE ALLY IN REAL MILITARY CRISIS, AND IT CANNOT COUNT ON OTHER NATO ALLIES OR EC PARTNERS IN SUCH CASE. NOVEMBER 25 JUNTA LEADERS ARE EVEN MORE DISILLUSIONED THEN PREDECESSORS ABOUT GREECE'S RELATIONS WITH EUROPEAN DEMOCRACIES. PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE INCREASINGLY OMITTED REFERENCE TO EUROPE BEYOND STANDARD STATEMENT SUPPORTING NATO. ALSO, FOREIGN MINISTER TETENES

REPORTEDLY FAILED ESTABLISH EFFECTIVE RAPPORT WITH COLLEAGUES AT DECEMBER NATO MINISTERIAL.

3. EXTENT TO WHICH GREECE MIGHT ASSUME GO-IT-ALONE ATTITUDE IN FACE OF FAILURE TO ESTABLISH ACCEPTANCE AMONG EUROPEAN NEIGHBORS IS PROBLEMATIC. SINCE JUNTA LEADERS WITH LIMITED EXPERIENCE IN INTERNATIONAL AREAN ARE NATIONALISTIC AND NOT "EUROPEAN-MINDED," BUT RATHER SEEK TIMES BENEFITTING GREECE'S SECURITY AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS, THEY UNDOUBTEDLY PREFER TO SEE US EUROPEAN STRATEGY DEVELOPED ON BROADEST POSSIBLE BASE.

4. INDICATIVE OF MANNER IN WHICH GREECE, AS WELL AS TURKEY, VIEW RELATIONS WITH EUROPE IS SUSPICIOUS ATTITUDE OF BOTH TOWARD CSCE AND MBFR. FOR EXAMPLE, BOTH HIGHLIGHT POTENTIALLY ADVERSE IMPACT ON THEIR SECURITY OF A SHIFT OF SOVIET FORCES FROM CENTRAL FRONT TO REGIONS OF SOVIET UNION FROM WHICH THEY WOULD POSE A GREATER THREAT TO SOUTHERN FLANK. THUS, GREECE IS WATCHING MBFR NEGOTIATIONS CLOSELY TO SEE THAT INTERESTS OF FLANK NATO COUNTRIES ARE NOT IGNORED. IF THEY SHOULD BE, GOG CAN BE EXPECTED TO REACT SHARPLY.

5. FOREGOING DEMONSTRATES WISDOM OF US MAINTAINING POSITION IN ITS DEALINGS WITH EUROPEAN ALLIES OF NOT BEING DRAWN INTO POSITION WHICH SUGGESTS IT IS DISPOSED TO GIVE PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT OR GREATER WEIGHT TO VIEWS OF EC-9, DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, OR ANY OTHER EUROPEAN SUBGROUP. WHILE BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY PLACE PRIMARY EMPHASIS ON THE NECESSITY OF THEIR MAINTAINING FRIENDLY BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH EACH OTHER, AT SAME TIME THEIR ASSOCIATION WITHIN NATO AND WITH U.S. IS ALSO FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENT. CONSEQUENTLY BOTH
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SUBSTANCE AND OPTICS OF WAY IN WHICH U.S. CONDUCTS ITSELF IN CONTEXT OF ONGOING CONTACTS, CONSULTATIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS IN EUROPE WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE GREAT SIGNIFICANCE HERE.
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